



## CITY OF PETERSBURG

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December 18, 2002

Mr. Kevin Waring, Chairperson  
State of Alaska Local Boundary Commission  
550 West Seventh Ave., Suite 1770  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Mr. Waring:

Enclosed is a copy of City of Petersburg Resolution # 1705 encouraging removal of disincentives for new borough formation and proposing greater local flexibility in the determination of borough boundaries.

As a community in an unorganized borough and listed on the Commission's list of areas identified as "may have" the financial capacity to operate borough governments, we request you share our position with all Boundary Commission members.

Sincerely,

Kathy O'Rear  
City Clerk

Cc: Myrna Gardner, First Judicial District Member  
Governor Murkowski  
Senator Taylor  
Representative Wilson  
SE Conference  
Alaska Municipal League  
Mayor Wasserman, City of Pelican

**RESOLUTION NO. 1705**

**Offered by: Anderson**  
**Supported by: Bracken**

**RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING REMOVAL OF DISINCENTIVES FOR NEW  
BOROUGH FORMATION AND PROPOSING GREATER LOCAL FLEXIBILITY IN  
THE DETERMINATION OF BOROUGH BOUNDARIES**

WHEREAS, Senate Bill #359, Section 3, New Borough Incorporation, passed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Alaska Legislature, calls for the Local Boundary Commission to review conditions in the Unorganized Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Alaska, Article X, Section 3, allows for, among other things, Borough consolidations and mergers, and

WHEREAS, according to the annual reports of the Local Boundary Commission, over the past 20 years, the Legislature has removed almost every incentive for borough formation (for example, severely reducing municipal revenue sharing and not funding borough formation studies); and

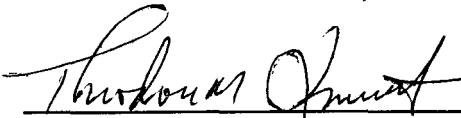
WHEREAS, the present system of creating boroughs is antiquated and cumbersome and acts as a disincentive to the regions of Alaska who would otherwise entertain borough formation; and

WHEREAS, the economics of the State have dramatically declined and changed within the past ten years, rendering the Model Borough Boundary proposal of 1992 obsolete and impractical.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Petersburg, the Alaska State Legislature is encouraged to work with the Local Boundary Commission, communities and the public to revisit the regulations and standards under which the Model Borough Boundaries were adopted and to reconsider state policies that are deterrents to Borough formation, and base them on the present economy of the State, also allowing for future changes as necessity dictates.

APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Petersburg, Alaska, at a regular meeting held this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2002.

CITY OF PETERSBURG, ALASKA

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ted Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy O'Rear, City Clerk